

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An injectable anesthetic composition comprising:

a microemulsion comprising a mixture of 2,6-diisopropylphenol, polyethylene glycol 660 hydroxystearate, tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol polyethyleneglycol ether, and an aqueous medium comprising a tonicity adjustment agent in an amount sufficient to obtain an isotonic condition corresponding to blood plasma;

a surfactant selected from the group consisting of bile salts, lecithin, and mixtures thereof; and

a member selected from the group consisting of liquid excipients, pH regulators, thickening agents, absorbents, light stabilizers, crystallization inhibitors, complexing agents, antioxidants, antiseptics, and mixtures thereof;

wherein the composition exhibits a transmittance at 660 nm of greater than about 90%.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended): The composition of ~~2~~ 1 wherein the composition comprises about 0.1 to 0.5% by weight of the surfactant.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The composition of claim ~~2~~ 1 wherein the surfactant is a bile salt selected from the group consisting of pharmaceutically acceptable salts of cholic acid, deoxycholic acid, chenodeoxycholic acid, lithocholic acid, ursocholic acid, ursodeoxycholic acid, isoursodeoxycholic acid, lagodeoxycholic acid, glycocholic acid, taurocholic acid, glycodeoxycholic acid, glycochenodeoxycholic acid, dehydrocholic acid, hyocholic acid, hyodeoxycholic acid, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The composition of claim 1 ~~further~~ comprising a bile salt.

Claim 6 (original): The composition of claim 5 wherein the composition comprises about 0.1 to 0.5% by weight of the bile salt.

Claim 7 (original): The composition of claim 5 wherein the bile salt is a member selected from the group consisting of pharmaceutically acceptable salts of cholic acid, deoxycholic acid, chenodeoxycholic acid, lithocholic acid, ursocholic acid, ursodeoxycholic acid, isoursodeoxycholic acid, lagodeoxycholic

acid, glycocholic acid, taurocholic acid, glycodeoxycholic acid, glycochenodeoxycholic acid, dehydrocholic acid, hyocholic acid, hyodeoxycholic acid, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The composition of claim 1 ~~further~~ comprising lecithin.

Claim 9 (original): The composition of claim 8 wherein the composition comprises about 0.1 to 0.5% by weight of the lecithin.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The composition of claim 1 ~~further~~ comprising a mixture of a bile salt and lecithin.

Claim 11 (original): The composition of claim 10 wherein the composition comprises about 0.1 to 0.5% by weight of the mixture of a bile salt and lecithin.

Claim 12 (original): The composition of claim 10 wherein the bile salt is a member selected from the group consisting of pharmaceutically acceptable salts of cholic acid, deoxycholic acid, chenodeoxycholic acid, lithocholic acid, ursocholic acid, ursodeoxycholic acid, isoursodeoxycholic acid, lagodeoxycholic acid, glycocholic acid, taurocholic acid, glycodeoxycholic acid,

glycochenodeoxycholic acid, dehydrocholic acid, hyocholic acid, hyodeoxycholic acid, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 13 (canceled)

Claim 14 (currently amended): The composition of claim ~~13~~ 1 wherein the tonicity adjustment agent is a member selected from the group consisting of trehalose, glucose, fructose, glycerol, sorbitol, mannitol, sucrose, xylitol, sodium chloride, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 15 (original): The composition of claim 1 wherein the composition comprises about 1 to 2% by weight of 2,6-diisopropylphenol.

Claim 16 (original): The composition of claim 1 wherein the composition comprises about 5 to 10% by weight of polyethylene glycol 660 hydroxystearate.

Claim 17 (original): The composition of claim 1 wherein the composition comprises about 10 to 25% by weight of tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol polyethyleneglycol ether.

Claim 18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (currently amended): The composition of claim ~~18~~ 1 wherein the composition comprises a liquid excipient selected from the group consisting of ethanol, propylene glycol, glycerol, triethylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The composition of claim ~~18~~ 1 wherein the composition comprises a pH regulator selected from the group consisting of citric acid, acetate, phosphoric acid, ascorbic acid, gluconic acid, succinic acid, tartaric acid, lactic acid, and salts thereof, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The composition of claim ~~18~~ 1 wherein the composition comprises a thickening agent selected from the group consisting of methylcellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, polyvinylpyrrolidone, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The composition of claim ~~18~~ 1 wherein the composition comprises a complexing agent selected from the group consisting of EDTA and salts thereof, phosphate, nitrate, acetate, citrate, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 23 (currently amended): The composition of claim ~~18~~ 1 wherein the composition comprises an antioxidant selected from the

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group consisting of ascorbic acid, sulfate compounds, L-cysteine, thiodipropionic acid, thiolactic acid, monothioglycerol, propyl galate, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The composition of claim ~~18~~ 1 wherein the composition comprises an antiseptic selected from the group consisting of methyl *p*-oxybenzoate, propyl *p*-oxybenzoate, PHB ester, chlorobutanol, benzyl alcohol, butanol, butane-1,3-diol, chlorohexidin salts, benzoic acid and its salts, sorbic acid, and mixtures thereof.

Claims 25-60 (canceled)